

# Fungal Infections and Climate Change

## Student Comprehension Worksheet

**Directions:** After reading "[Climate change may raise the risk of deadly fungal infections in humans. One species is already a threat.](#)" answer the following questions.

1. What fungal species has recently been found to infect people? (Take notice and use the correct format for writing the name of a species.) When and where did infectious versions of the fungus appear?
2. What makes scientists think the fungus wasn't spread by infected travelers? Explain the scientists' reasoning.
3. Why have humans and other mammals largely been spared from infections by fungi?
4. Who is Arturo Casadevall? What is his hypothesis for how the fungus became infectious in humans? What role does he think climate change has played?
5. Why are infections of this fungus a threat to people?
6. How does Casadevall predict other fungi will react to a warmer world?
7. People have historically used soapboxes as informal platforms to stand on while giving speeches. Why do you think *Science News* has included this article in a category of story labeled "Soapbox"?

**8. Aside from reporting Casadevall's viewpoint, what information does *Science News* journalist Aimee Cunningham provide about the fungus and other fungal diseases?**